

Message

---

**From:** Rathbone, Colleen [Rathbone.Colleen@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 3/5/2015 8:03:01 PM  
**To:** Sanelli, Diane [Sanelli.Diane@epa.gov]; Minter, Douglas [Minter.Douglas@epa.gov]; Kahn, Lisa [Kahn.Lisa@epa.gov]; Bahrman, Sarah [Bahrman.Sarah@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** FW: Another FY 2016 Budget/Planning Request - \*\*OPRA DEADLINE COB FRIDAY 3/6/15\*\*  
**Attachments:** Region 8 Accomplishments & Challenges by State\_3.4.15.xlsx

**Importance:** High

Could we get together this afternoon or tomorrow to work on this?

Colleen Rathbone, Chief  
Wastewater Unit  
US EPA Region 8  
ph: 303-312-6133  
fax:303-312-6116

---

**From:** O'Connor, Darcy  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 05, 2015 12:53 PM  
**To:** Bahrman, Sarah; Daly, Carl; Dehnert, Barbara; Hoskie, Sadie; Jackson, Scott; Kahn, Lisa; Minter, Douglas; Mitre, Alfreda; Morales, Monica; Morlock, Nancy; Pearson, Janice; Rathbone, Colleen; Rothery, Deirdre; Sanelli, Diane; Schuller, Jennifer; Wood, Melaniel  
**Cc:** Videtich, Callie; Rule, Maryann  
**Subject:** FW: Another FY 2016 Budget/Planning Request - \*\*OPRA DEADLINE COB FRIDAY 3/6/15\*\*  
**Importance:** High

Everyone, you'll see we have another super-short deadline for additional information related to our accomplishments and challenges. I apologize for the short deadline. I'm attaching the full email for reference, but here is what we need for OPRA:

- We need the attached table completed with accomplishments (2-3 sentences ONLY) for each program listed, for each state, and one tribal accomplishment we want to highlight in each program.
- We also should include challenges (as appropriate) in each program for each state and an overarching tribal challenge in each program.
- Things to remember are that this is for EXTERNAL audiences, so we should not be including internal deliberative activities/issues; and it needs to be short and sweet – I think they use the term ruthless brevity.
- For any programs/issues that span ARAs – any conversations you can have with your counterparts prior to completing the table would be really helpful in having one clear message.
- You'll see that TMS has tried to help us out by populating some ideas in the spreadsheet – however some of these items are not appropriate for external audiences, and most are too wordy. Do not feel like you need to use these examples.
- **Please provide your program's updated information by COB Tomorrow – 3/6/15.** Callie and I can then review the info and I can compile the information to meet the deadline of getting it to Ben by 10 am on Monday.

**If you think this should be on the SharePoint for updating, let me know.** My experience is you run into problems having multiple people in the document making changes at the same time – which will be the case here, so it seemed like the old fashion way was best, but I'm open to suggestions.

Sorry for the tight turnaround– please let me know if you have questions.

Thanks!  
D

---

**From:** Bielenberg, Ben  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 05, 2015 8:57 AM  
**To:** R8 SLT  
**Cc:** Vuong, Stephanie  
**Subject:** Another FY 2016 Budget/Planning Request - Due 3/9 at 10am- FW: TIME-SENSITIVE: DA Request for Evidence-Based Programmatic and State Snapshots by 3/9  
**Importance:** High

SLT,

In a continuation of the FY 2016 Budget and Planning materials we developed and submitted last week, the Administrator and Acting Deputy Administrator have requested additional information from Regions and NPMs. Additional details can be found in the HQ note below. In summary, the Region is being asked to provide short, yet descriptive, and compelling stories for the general public. They are requesting 2-3 sentences, identifying accomplishments and challenges in all Region 8 states and our Tribes for the following programmatic areas: **(1)** Air Quality; **(2)** Water Quality; **(3)** Drinking Water; **(4)** Land Cleanup; **(5)** Hazardous/Solid Waste Mgmt; **(6)** Pesticides; **(7)** Toxic Chemicals; and **(8)** Enforcement. Only one story per area for all tribes is necessary, not one story per tribe.

Considering the short fuse, we've taken a stab at filling out the chart using RAC/ACS Reporting, FMFIA, Hot Topics, SLT Notes, and anything else we could get our hands on yesterday afternoon and this morning. However, there are still pieces missing that need your attention. Please review the spreadsheet to, 1) add items to those sections missing accomplishments and/or challenges as possible, and 2) review what has already been entered to ensure it reflects our most significant accomplishment or challenge. Significant accomplishments do not need to be limited to those that occurred in FY 2014 or FY 2015.

Please submit your spreadsheet (attached) to myself and Stephanie Vuong (x7824) by 10am on Monday 3/9. We will compile and provide to Shaun and Deb by 11am for review and discussion at SLT. Stephanie and I will then make edits and format as necessary to satisfy the request by COB next Monday.

Thank you for your continued assistance with these drills, and please let either of us know how we can help.

Ben  
X6771

---

**From:** Connors, Sandra  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 04, 2015 12:16 PM  
**To:** EMC Members; Levinson, Sarah; Jencius, Morgan; Gray, David; D'Andrea, Michael; Buhl, Rick; Harmon, Russell; Ripley, Laura; Snyder, Jessica; Beg, Gul; Meni, Reynold; Sterling, Sherry; Miles, Erin; Weckesser, Mike; Cherry, Katrina; Lubbe, Wendy  
**Cc:** EMC Staff Contacts; Rivera, Reiniero; Mcseveney, Megan; Olender, Marc  
**Subject:** TIME-SENSITIVE: DA Request for Evidence-Based Programmatic and State Snapshots by 3/9

Dear EMC and designees:

As presented at yesterday's EMC meeting ([link](#)), the Acting Deputy Administrator has asked us to quickly compile compelling, pithy stories incorporating key statistics on accomplishments to date and remaining challenges over the next two years. While the impetus for this arose from recent Congressional budget hearings, we hope to utilize this for a variety of external audiences. Thank you for sending me the name of your designated contact person and we ask you both to quickly gather and provide initial submissions **by COB Monday, March 9**.

While this request is in part related to the one from the Chief of Staff last week, we've developed a framework for compiling these based on the table that we shared with you yesterday. Those earlier submissions should prove a useful

source for completing this exercise and are also housed on the EMC SharePoint (SP) site ([link](#)). As an initial matter, we have divided our work into 8 topics: **(1)** Air Quality; **(2)** Water Quality; **(3)** Drinking Water; **(4)** Land Cleanup; **(5)** Hazardous/Solid Waste Mgmt; **(6)** Pesticides; **(7)** Toxic Chemicals; and **(8)** Enforcement.

We have given both you and your designee access to the materials referenced here and housed on the EMC SP site ([link](#)). This will facilitate real-time data entry and allow you to view submissions as they are entered. We've attached a few draft NPM examples (still subject to further refinement by NPMs), as well as the state example provided in the linked EMC materials for you to draw from as you work on this project.

#### **GUIDANCE FOR ALL SUBMITTALS:**

- Present accomplishments and challenges using plain language and statistics to tell compelling stories for the general public.
- Ruthless brevity: 2-3 sentences max for each accomplishment/challenge. (*See attached examples.*)
- Pull from existing submittals wherever possible.
- Please submit a Word document in SP ([link](#)) with all your information. Additionally, due to the short turnaround, we are asking you to copy that information into the appropriate cells for your Region or NPM office on the Spreadsheet in the appropriate tabs ([link](#)).

#### **WHAT YOUR OFFICE NEEDS TO DO BY COB MARCH 9:**

- **NPMs** - OAR, OCSPP, OECA, OSWER, and OW are asked to provide **national-level** accomplishments and challenges for the 8 topics. Please limit the national level submissions under each topic to five or less areas to start with. At this time, we are not requesting data from other NPMs but will follow up as needed. To fill in your data, click on the **NPMs** tab of the **Spreadsheet** ([link](#)) and add information under accomplishments and challenges for the appropriate topic (Air, Water, Etc).
- **Regions** - For each state/territory within your region, provide submissions on statewide or territory-wide issues for as many of the 8 topics as possible. (An example of water quality for FL is included in the linked EMC materials). To fill in your data, click on the **Regions** tab of the **Spreadsheet** ([link](#)) and add information under accomplishments and challenges for the appropriate topic. Each region (except for R3) also has space to submit a submission for tribes collectively for as many of the 8 topics as applicable.
- **OCFO will fill in all rows marked Budget** and shaded in Red on the Spreadsheet.

If you have additional questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Rey Rivera at [rivera.reiniero@epa.gov](mailto:rivera.reiniero@epa.gov) or 202-564-1491. We will be forming a small review team to refine the submissions and will be keeping you abreast of changes/new developments as they arise.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

*Sandra*

---

Sandra L. Connors  
Director, Office of Strategic Environmental Management  
Office of Policy  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, Mail Code 1807T  
Washington, DC 20460  
(202)564-4231  
(202)501-1688 (fax)  
[connors.sandra@epa.gov](mailto:connors.sandra@epa.gov)